



NOMINATIONS DEADLINE – DEC. 30, 2017
****Submit nominations to secretary@owit.org (copy to president@owit.org)**

ANNUAL OWIT AWARDS
CRITERIA AND NOMINATION FORM

Let's once again celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of women leaders. Every year since 1995, OWIT has recognized women leaders in international trade and business from around the world. The organization presents three awards annually, *OWIT Woman of the Year*, *OWIT Chapter of the Year*, and *OWIT Member of the Year*.

For OWIT Woman of the Year, OWIT will recognize the recipients of our Chapters' award winners. These Chapter award recipients are automatically nominated for the OWIT Woman of the Year Award. For OWIT Chapter of the Year, we request that each Chapter submit 2-3 highlights of events/activities deserving recognition by OWIT. For OWIT Member of the Year, we request nominations of members who have made outstanding contributions to their Chapters this past year. **Please submit your nominations to the OWIT Administrator at secretary@owit.org (copy to president@owit.org) by **December 30, 2017**.** The description of each award, the nomination process, the criteria, and the nomination form for each award follows. For your nominations to be considered and avoid rejection, please ensure they are complete as established by the criteria for each award.

Past OWIT Award Recipients

	Woman of the Year	Member of the Year	Chapter of the Year
2016	Anita Zucker	Deanna Clark-Esposito	Lake Geneva
2015	Ambassador Darci Vetter	Maricarmen Ahedo	Chicago
2014	Alma Farias	Beatrice Kagondu	Ottawa
2013	Meg Jones		Washington, D.C.
2012	Maria Bustamante Mejico	Lilia Navarette	Hampton Roads
2011	Jo Elizabeth Butler	Jennifer Diaz	South Florida
2010	Dr. Jacqueline Wasonga Kitulu	Monika Sandman/Diane MacDonald	Nairobi
2009	Joanne Mwangi	Kollyn Kanz	Toronto
2008	Pamela Davis Heilman	Carmen Romero	Peru
2007	Linda Rottenberg	Leann Hackman	Monterrey, Mexico
2006	Andrina Lever	Beth Peterson	Northern California
2005	Futhi Mtoba		
2004	Adair Heuchan		
2003	Carole Brookins		
2002	Astrid Pregel		
2000	Marjory E. Searing		
1999	Deborah A. Lamb		
1998	Marjorie Shostak		
1997	Hea-Kyung Joo		
1996	Marian Duntley		
1995	Laura Jones		



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1. OWIT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year, OWIT presents the "OWIT Woman of the Year Award" to an exceptional woman who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the status of women within the international business and trade community. As several Chapters also recognize dynamic trailblazing women, **we ask that each Chapter's award recipient be submitted as a nominee for the OWIT Woman of the Year Award.**

Nominations may also be submitted for other individuals deserving of this special recognition.

Nomination Process

- Nominations are submitted to the OWIT Secretary (secretary@owit.org).
- The Executive Committee reviews all applications to ensure they meet the qualification criteria.
 - The Executive Committee reserves the right to request additional information or actions deemed necessary to ensure a nomination qualifies and can be further submitted for final vote. The Executive Committee also reserves the right to reject any submissions which are deemed not to meet the qualification criteria.
- The recipient of this award is chosen by the OWIT International Board of Directors.

Qualification Criteria

- If the candidate is recipient of Woman of the Year by an OWIT Chapter, this award must have been received during the same period as the OWIT award, i.e., only Chapter award recipients in 2017 are eligible for the 2017 OWIT Woman of the Year Award.
- If the candidate is not a recipient of a Chapter's award program, the candidate should have made an outstanding contribution and enhancement to the status of women in international business and trade **for a period of three years or more.**
- The candidate should both in intent and impact be supporting the greater purpose and mission of OWIT - *united around the globe to foster international trade and the advancement of women in business.*
- The candidate should role model the values of OWIT (collaboration, integrity, responsibility, respect, diversity, empowerment, learning, compassion) and be a role model to other women in the field.
- The candidate should be recognized and highly respected for her significant achievements and/or responsibilities.
- The candidate need not be an OWIT member.
- Current OWIT International Executive Team officers are ineligible.



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NOMINATION FORM : “OWIT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD”

**** For Chapter Award recipients (automatic nominees), simply provide the Name and Contact Information for the Nominee (email address), Chapter, Date of Award, and Bio/Description Relied upon by the Chapter in selecting the awardee.**

Nomination submitted by: *(Please indicate name and home chapter)*

Name of person submitting nomination

Home Chapter

Name and Contact Information for Woman Nominee:

Name

Email Address

Supporting Rationale: *(In 300 words or less, please address the criteria for which you are nominating this particular woman: Professional Contribution, Enhancing Women in Trade/Business, Role Model, and Significant Achievements/Responsibilities):*



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2. OWIT CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year, OWIT presents the "**OWIT Chapter of the Year Award**" to a member chapter who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to OWIT International (defined as the umbrella organization and its chapters). These contributions must be evident in at least two (2) activities/events that promoted the Chapter and OWIT in the international trade and business community in the past year. Chapters are strongly encouraged to self-nominate for this award.

Nomination Process

- Nominations are submitted to the OWIT Secretary (secretary@owit.org).
- The Executive Committee reviews all applications to ensure they meet the qualification criteria.
 - The Executive Committee reserves the right to request further information or actions deemed necessary to ensure a nomination qualifies and can be further submitted for final vote. The Executive Committee also reserve the right to reject any submissions which are deemed not to meet the qualification criteria.
- The recipient of this award is chosen by the OWIT International Board of Directors.
- The OWIT International President presents the award.

Qualification Criteria

- Candidate chapter must be an OWIT member chapter in good standing.
 - Dues paid for the award year and/or at the time of the award
- The candidate chapter should both in intent and impact be supporting the greater purpose and mission of OWIT - *united around the globe to foster international trade and the advancement of women in business.*
- Nomination must be supported with a minimum of two events/activities by the Chapter during the award year that evidence notable contributions to OWIT and the spirit of unity embodied in OWIT's mission.



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NOMINATION FORM: “OWIT CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD”

Nomination submitted by:

Name of person submitting nomination Home Chapter

Chapter Nominee:

Name of Chapter State Country

Year established as OWIT Chapter: _____

Point of Contact for the Chapter Nominee:

Name Email Address

Supporting Rationale: *(In 300 words or less, please address the criteria with examples for which you are nominating this particular chapter). Descriptions of Contributions may include:*

Leadership: mentoring other OWIT chapters in terms of sharing organizational management experience, processes, and procedures; recognition in local community as a leader on international trade issues, activities and programs by local private and public officials.

Organizational support: on an ongoing and continuous basis, including but not limited to: raising awareness of OWIT as an organization by communicating OWIT goals, mission, programs and activities to local, national and international trade communities; encouraging participation in the OWIT organization of persons in the public and private sector; recognizing value of OWIT membership and participation by encouraging membership by local companies and individuals in public and private sector; building media and press recognition of OWIT as a chapter.

Professional development: on an ongoing and continuous basis, including but not limited to: promoting professional growth, mentoring, education and leadership among people in the public and private sectors; enhancing the status and interests of women in the field of international trade through the establishment of a worldwide network of international business contacts; sponsoring programs and activities to support the development of personal and professional skills; establishing educational programs, conferences, and other activities to promote international trade employment.

Awareness and advancement of significant trade issues: on an ongoing and continuous basis, including but not limited to: providing a forum for the discussion, debate and direction of a particular international trade issue; raising awareness of a particular issue to private and public bodies, including local and national governments, as well as multilateral institutions; building programs and activities to encourage and stimulate the exchange of views, ideas, and information concerning foreign commerce and international relations.

Significant chapter improvement/development: on an ongoing and continuous basis, including but not limited to: dramatic turn-around of an existing chapter in terms of programs, budget, membership; development of a new chapter that has significant support from local community and is driving significant programs and activities; building of a new process or new tool (i.e., website or on-line registration) that could be used as a model for other chapters.



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3. MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year, OWIT presents the "**OWIT Member of the Year Award**" to an OWIT Chapter Member who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to OWIT International and the international business and trade community during the past year.

Nomination Process

- Nominations are submitted to the OWIT Secretary (secretary@owit.org).
- The Executive Committee reviews all applications to ensure they meet the qualification criteria.
 - The Executive Committee reserves the right to request further information or actions deemed necessary to ensure a nomination qualifies and can be further submitted for final vote. The Executive Committee also reserves the right to reject any submissions which are deemed not to meet the qualification criteria.
- The recipient of this award is chosen by the OWIT International Board of Directors.
- The OWIT International President presents the award.

Qualification Criteria

- The candidate should be someone whose service and commitment have made a contribution to OWIT International as an organization and/or its chapters above and beyond contributions to their own chapter. The candidate's service and commitment should be above and beyond any current responsibility if serving on a Chapter Board or OWIT Board.
- The candidate should both in intent and impact be supporting the greater purpose and mission of OWIT - *united around the globe to foster international trade and the advancement of women in business*.
- The candidate must be a member of a Chapter that is in good standing with OWIT International. (Chapter dues paid), and must be a member in good standing with her/his local chapter (member dues paid).
- Current OWIT International Executive officers are ineligible.



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NOMINATION FORM: “OWIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD”

Nomination submitted by:

Name of person submitting nomination

Home Chapter

Name and Contact Information for Member Nominee:

Name

Chapter

Email

Supporting Rationale: *(In 300 words or less, please address the criteria for which you are nominating the Chapter member. Nomination should specify details of contributions made by the member this past year to OWIT’s mission in terms of outstanding service/commitment to local chapter, outstanding service/commitment to international board/executive, significantly raised the profile of OWIT’s work, outstanding organizational leadership, other.)*